

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 6, with the following paragraph:

In the resin-cemented optical element of the present invention, as shown in Fig. 1, a resin layer 11 has a thickness of 300 μm or smaller (preferably 100 μm or smaller) at least at some part of a peripheral portion (i.e., a region within 1 mm from the peripheral edge face 17 of the resin layer 11, or a region outside the effective-diameter region), and has a thickness of 850 μm or larger (preferably 1 mm or larger) as the maximum value of the thickness of the resin layer 11. Also, in order to attain necessary strength, optical characteristics and so forth, the resin layer 11 may preferably be formed usually in a thickness of at least 20 μm , without regard to the inside or outside of the peripheral portion. Incidentally, what is shown in Fig. 1 takes the case of an optical element whose resin layer molding surface is convex, to which, however, the present invention is by no means limited.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 2, with the following paragraph:

Here, the peripheral portion is meant to be a region within 1 mm from the peripheral edge face 17 of the resin layer 11, or a region outside the effective-diameter region. A region inside the effective-diameter region is meant to be a region through which light rays used in optical designing are transmitted, thus the region outside the effective-diameter region is meant to be a region except for this region. In general, the resin thickness of an element is strictly determined in accordance with the required optical characteristics. However, as long as it is in the region outside the effective-diameter region, it does not affect any optical characteristics of the element. Hence, the layer thickness can appropriately be selected.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 3, with the following paragraph:

- c. The resin layer 11 has an external diameter 14 of 34 mm or larger.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 8, with the following paragraph:

- f. The base member 10 has an external diameter 15 of 35 mm or larger.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 15 with the following paragraph:

- h. As shown in Fig. 3, an angle 23 at which a normal 21 of the interface 20 between the base member 10 and the resin layer 11 falls with a tangent plane 22 on the outside of the resin layer is 80° or smaller as minimum value.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 24, with the following paragraph:

The resin-cemented optical element of the present invention may include, e.g., lenses, prisms and diffraction gratings. ~~the~~The present invention can bring about superior effects especially when applied to aspheric lenses. The present invention may also be applied to aspheric mirrors.